

SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACT SHEET

Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services

This fact sheet contains information about the impact of alcohol and other drug use in the Third Bristol Representative District. Admission data were reported to the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) Substance Abuse Management Information System in FY 2003.

Residents of Third Bristol Representative District

Characteristics of Admissions

In FY 2003 there were 115,896 admissions to licensed substance abuse treatment services in all of Massachusetts; less than one percent (831) of these admissions reside in the Third Bristol Representative District.¹ **Please note that these statistics represent only individual admissions, and represent a figure lower than the actual number of constituents in need of treatment services.** In FY 2003, admissions to all residential and outpatient substance abuse treatment services from the Third Bristol Representative District reported the following characteristics:

- 70% were male and 30% were female.
- 63% were between the ages of 21-39.
- 85% were white non-Latino, 5% were black non-Latino, 5% were Latino, and 4% were other racial categories.
- 61% were never married, 18% were married, and 22% reported not to be married now.
- 33% had less than high school education, 54% completed high school, and 13% had more than high school education.
- 33% were employed.
- 5% were homeless.
- 28% had prior mental health treatment.

Primary Substance of Use

At admission clients also identify a “primary drug” of use that is the substance for which the client is seeking treatment. Table 1 compares the proportional distribution of primary drugs in Massachusetts with that for the Third Bristol Representative District.

Table 1					
Primary Drug by District and State FY 2003					
	Alcohol	Heroin	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack
District	49%	36%	2%	6%	1%
State	43%	38%	6%	4%	4%

Substances Used in Past Year

Upon entering treatment, each client is asked to report ALL substances used in the past year (12 months) prior to admission. Admissions frequently report using more than one substance within the year. The use of more than one psychoactive substance, such as alcohol and marijuana, is referred to as ‘polydrug’ or ‘polysubstance’ use.

¹ To protect client confidentiality, statistics representing clients under 17 years of age have been omitted from this fact sheet.

Table 2 shows ALL substances which clients reported using in the year prior to admission, as well as the prevalence of injection drug users (or IDU's), individuals who use a needle to ingest cocaine, crack, heroin or another drug to get high.

Table 2 Annual Admissions by Substance Used FY 1995 – FY 2003 Third Bristol Representative District							
	Total	Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	IDU
FY '95	805	648	248	253	108	279	182
FY '96	791	625	259	244	137	286	215
FY '97	904	715	272	226	145	306	236
FY '98	1,088	803	336	289	121	426	280
FY '99	1,076	762	358	296	139	466	297
FY 00	1,066	764	363	311	131	415	275
FY '01	1,173	849	340	321	120	486	326
FY '02	1,014	753	357	296	104	402	255
FY '03	831	581	216	274	74	335	211

Heroin and Injection Drug Use

Figure 1 below shows the proportional increases in all admissions in the Third Bristol Representative District and the proportional increase in admissions reporting heroin and injection drug use, a factor driving increases in HIV.

